

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
TRSE-00 /065 R

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-----113256 110514Z /11

P R 110034Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
INFO USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 007050

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, NATO

SUBJECT: LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM - C3

1. THE FOLLOWING ARE OUR VIEWS ON THE STATUS AND
SUBSTANCE OF THE COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATIONS
PROGRAMS BEING DEVELOPED BY TASK FORCE NUMBER 6.

2. OUR PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED PROGRAM EMPHASES HAVE
NOT BEEN DIRECTLY INSERTED INTO THE FIRST DRAFTS OF
THE TASK FORCE NUMBER 6 REPORT, BUT INFORMAL CONTACTS
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INDICATE THAT ALL ARE INCLUDED IN ONE OR MORE OF THE
SIX PRINCIPAL AREAS CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED BY DR. STONEY'S
GROUP. HIS DRAFT REPORT WILL BE CIRCULATED TO NATIONS
ABOUT 16 JANUARY, AND WE ANTICIPATE PROVIDING DETAILED
COMMENTS WITHIN A WEEK OF RECEIPT. WE ARE NOT AWARE
OF ANY AREAS OF FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCE WHICH WOULD
REQUIRE INTERVENTION NOW. WE DO NOT FEEL IT

APPROPRIATE AT THIS POINT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INPUTS EXCEPT AS REQUESTED BY THE NATO TASK FORCE. INSTEAD, WE ARE EAGER TO SEE DRAFT, AS CIRCULATED FOR COMMENT, AND ADD EMPHASIS AS NECESSARY AT THAT POINT.

3. ONE POSSIBLE STUMBLING BLOCK IN ADOPTION OF THE

FULL-RANGE OF INITIATIVES ANTICIPATED WILL BE THE APPARENT PRICE TAG. FIRST ESTIMATES ARE FOR 2-3 BILLION DOLLARS, OVER A TEN-YEAR PERIOD. BUT, MISSION SHOULD POINT OUT TO THE TASK FORCE THAT COST IS FOR A 10-15 YEAR PROGRAM LIFE, AND THAT 75 PERCENT OR MORE OF THE FUNDS ARE ALREADY INCLUDED IN VARIOUS NATO AND NATIONAL PROGRAMS IN BEING AND UNDER DEVELOPMENT. WHAT WILL BE REQUIRED WILL NOT BE SO MUCH AN INCREASE IN SPENDING AS A REALLOCATION OF CURRENTLY PLANNED FUNDING TO PROVIDE AN IMPROVED, RATIONALIZED CAPABILITY.

4. ONE IMPORTANT AREA WHICH WILL NOT LEND ITSELF TO COSTING ANALYSIS LIES IN WARNING. PROVISION OF IMPROVED WARNING CAPABILITY REQUIRES ONLY LIMITED FUNDING, SUCH AS MIGHT BE REQUIRED IN PROVIDING AND MANNING 24-HOUR WATCH CENTERS AND MULTINATIONAL FUSION CENTERS. MISSION SHOULD PRESS THE NEED TO DEVELOP THE "MACHINERY" NECESSARY TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVED INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGE AND USE.
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5. IN SUMMARY, WE ARE PLEASED WITH THE APPARENT THRUST OF THE TASK FORCE NUMBER 6 EFFORT. HOWEVER, THE POSSIBLE PROBLEM AREAS NOTED ABOVE SHOULD BE WATCHED, AND US VIEWS PROVIDED WHENEVER IT MIGHT APPEAR APPROPRIATE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, MILITARY PLANNING, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE007050
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JETYLER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780015-0895
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780173/aaaackbe.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d93c8be4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3790502
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM - C3
TAGS: ETEL, NATO
To: USNATO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d93c8be4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014